

for the city of Baltimore, to be styled "the criminal court of Baltimore city," which shall consist of one judge, and shall have and exercise all the jurisdiction now exercised by Baltimore city court, except so far as the same may be vested in the police court hereafter to be established, and shall have exclusive jurisdiction in cases of petition for freedom, and in all cases of petitions to cancel or enforce contracts of apprenticeships; and the said judge shall receive an annual salary of two thousand dollars per annum, and shall be subject to the provisions of this constitution with regard to the election and qualification of judges and their removal from office.

Sec. 19. There shall also be established a court, to be styled the Police Court of Baltimore city, to consist of one judge, who shall hold his office for the term of ten years and who shall be subject to all the provisions of this constitution with regard to the election and qualification of Judges and their removal from office; and the said court shall have jurisdiction in all prosecutions for assault and battery, for keeping disorderly houses; for larceny, where the property stolen does not exceed in value the sum of twenty dollars; in all prosecutions for receiving stolen goods, and knowing them to be stolen; and for selling goods without license; and it shall be the duty of the Legislature to provide for quarterly sessions of said court, for the purpose of trying those cases in which a trial by jury may be demanded by the accused, and also to provide that the said court shall hold frequent sessions for the trial of cases, subject to its jurisdiction, in which the accused may not demand a jury trial. And the judge of said court shall receive an annual salary of fifteen hundred dollars.

Sec. 20. There shall also be a Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas in Baltimore city, who shall also be the clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore city, and the register in Chancery of the chancery court of the city of Baltimore, and there shall also be a clerk of the Criminal Court of Baltimore city, who shall also be the clerk of the Police Court of Baltimore city, and each of said clerks shall be elected by a plurality vote of the qualified voters of the city of Baltimore, and shall hold his office for six years from the time of his election and until a new election is held, and be re-eligible thereto, subject in like manner to be removed for willful neglect of duty, or other misdemeanor in office, by presentment of a grand jury and conviction of a petit jury of said city. In case of a vacancy in the office of a clerk, the judge or judges of the court of which he was clerk, shall have the power to appoint a clerk until an election can be held, which shall take place under the directions of the sheriff, upon giving thirty days' public notice thereof.

Sec. 21. There shall be a Register of Wills for the city of Baltimore, to be elected by a plurality vote of the qualified voters of said counties and city respectively, and who shall hold his office for six years from the time of his election, and until a new election shall take place, and be re-eligible thereto, subject to be removed for willful neglect of duty, or other misdemeanor in office, in the same manner that the clerks of the county

courts are removable. The Legislature shall provide by law suitable annual salaries for such Register of Wills, in lieu of the fees and perquisites as now established by law. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Register of Wills, said vacancy shall be filled by the judge of the court until the next general election for Delegates to the Legislature shall be held, when his term of office shall expire.

Sec. 22. The Judges of the Court of Appeals, judges of the inferior district courts, and Chancellor, shall be subject to removal for incompetency, willful neglect of duty, misdemeanor in office, and such other causes as may be prescribed by law, by presentment of a grand jury and conviction of a petit jury of said judicial district, or by the Governor, upon address of the General Assembly, two-thirds of the members of each house concurring in such address.

#### CHANCELLOR.

Sec. 23. There shall be a Chancellor elected for each of the inferior judicial districts, whose term of office, qualifications, and salary shall be the same as is herein provided for the judges of the inferior judicial districts, and who shall be elected in the same manner, and removable for same causes.

Sec. 24. The Chancellor shall have and exercise the equity jurisdiction now exercised by the county courts sitting as courts of equity, in the several counties in which he shall have been elected. He shall hold his courts at such time and place as are now prescribed or may hereafter be provided for by law. He shall have jurisdiction in all applications for the benefit of the insolvent laws within his district of the State, and the supervision and control of the trustees thereof.

#### ORPHANS' COURT.

Sec. 25. The Chancellor elected for each of the inferior judicial districts shall be judge of the Orphans' Court of each county in their respective district, who shall have all the powers now vested in the Orphans' Courts of the several counties of this State, subject to such regulations as the Legislature may hereafter establish. It shall be the duty of the Chancellor, or Judge of the Orphans' Court, to attend at least six times in every year, and oftener when the business of the county may require it, to examine into and discharge the duties as Judge of the Orphans' Court for each county in his district, as are now or hereafter may be provided for by law. He shall examine into and revise the proceedings of the Register of Wills of each county, establish such rules and orders not inconsistent with law, as may tend to facilitate the business of the court.

Sec. 26. There shall be a Register of Wills for the Orphans' Court of each county in the State, who shall be elected by a plurality vote of the legal voters of the county, who shall discharge the duties now or which may hereafter be required by law, whose term of office, qualifications, manner of election, and removal shall be the same as those herein provided for the clerks to the courts of the said counties. He shall also discharge the duties of register in chancery in